



**STATE OF LOUISIANA**  
**OFFICE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**  
**BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA**



March 31, 2007

The Louisiana Office of Financial Institutions (LOFI) is responsible for the supervision and regulation of various institutions and entities that provide financial services to the citizens of the State of Louisiana. LOFI is divided into four divisions and has six field offices, in addition to its main office, located throughout the State of Louisiana. Three of the divisions are based on the general types of institutions regulated and include the following: Depository Institutions Division, Securities Division, and Nondepository Division. The fourth division is the Executive Administration Division. The table below depicts the number of entities regulated by each division for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2002, through June 30, 2006, and year-to-date March 31, 2007. The LOFI is accredited by both the Conference of State Bank Supervisors (CSBS) and the National Association of State Credit Union Supervisors (NASCUS).

| REGULATED ENTITIES                                 | FYE<br>2002 | FYE<br>2003 | FYE<br>2004 | FYE<br>2005 | FYE<br>2006 | YTD<br>03/31/07 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Banks  | 126         | 125         | 123         | 122         | 125         | 125             |
| Holding Companies <sup>1</sup>                     | 96          | 94          | 93          | 91          | 93          | 93              |
| Trust Departments                                  | 21          | 23          | 23          | 21          | 21          | 22              |
| Thrifts  | 16          | 13          | 13          | 10          | 9           | 9               |
| Credit Unions                                      | 59          | 58          | 56          | 54          | 54          | 49              |
| Sale of Checks/Money Transmitters                  | 43          | 36          | 40          | 47          | 54          | 60              |
| Securities (Registration & Licensing) <sup>2</sup> | 96,364      | 90,969      | 91,889      | 97,574      | 85,925      | 92,868          |
| Licensed Lenders (Finance Companies)               | 1,624       | 1,723       | 1,828       | 1,956       | 1,971       | 1,926           |
| Loan Brokers                                       | 36          | 21          | 21          | 25          | 23          | 21              |
| Residential Mortgage Lenders/Brokers               | 594         | 609         | 725         | 811         | 788         | 823             |
| Residential Mortgage Originators                   | 1,658       | 1,754       | 6,997       | 6,156       | 5,426       | 4,496           |
| Notification Filers (Consumer Sales)               | 2,261       | 2,137       | 2,212       | 2,295       | 2,310       | 2,201           |
| Credit Repair Services Organizations               | 1           | 2           | 3           | 2           | 4           | 1               |
| Collection Agencies <sup>3</sup>                   | 377         | 415         |             |             |             |                 |
| Pawnbrokers  | 223         | 213         | 214         | 209         | 199         | 182             |
| Check Cashers <sup>4</sup>                         | 158         | 172         | 210         | 282         | 346         | 961             |
| Bond For Deed Escrow Agents                        | 8           | 8           | 9           | 10          | 10          | 11              |
| Repossession Agencies/Qualifying Agents            |             |             |             | 11          | 9           | 9               |
| Repossession Agents/Apprentices                    |             |             |             | 25          | 15          | 23              |
| Business and Industrial Dev Companies (BIDCO)      | 11          | 12          | 12          | 12          | 13          | 13              |
| Certified La Capital Companies (CAPCO)             | 31          | 29          | 29          | 28          | 27          | 28              |
| LA Community Development Financial Institutions    |             |             |             |             | 2           | 2               |
| Total Employees (Authorized Positions)             | 129         | 129         | 130         | 134         | 134         | 129             |

<sup>1</sup>Includes two thrift holding companies

<sup>2</sup>Includes agents, broker dealers, investment advisors, public and private offerings

<sup>3</sup>Repealed 8/15/03

<sup>4</sup>Includes all locations and branches effective 8/15/06

**DEPOSITORY DIVISION** – This division is responsible for the chartering, supervision, and regulation of federally-insured state-chartered depository institutions and certain affiliated/related entities. These institutions include banks, savings banks, savings and loan association, their respective holding companies, credit unions, independent trust companies, and sale of checks. In addition, this division is responsible for sale of checks licensees, including persons who engage in the selling of checks, drafts, money orders, or other instruments for the transmission or payment of money. Questions regarding this division should be directed to Chief Examiner Sid Seymour at (225) 925-4675 or [ss Seymour@ofi.louisiana.gov](mailto:ss Seymour@ofi.louisiana.gov).

**SECURITIES DIVISION** - This division registers securities offerings for sale to the public and licenses broker-dealers, agents, and investment advisors. Working in close cooperation with the National Association of Securities Dealers and the Securities and Exchange Commission, this section also investigates and originates enforcement actions dealing with unfair practices, complaints, and violations of law regarding a variety of securities activities. Questions regarding this division should be directed to Deputy Commissioner of Securities Rhonda Reeves at (225) 925-4512 or [rreeves@ofi.louisiana.gov](mailto:rreeves@ofi.louisiana.gov).

**NON-DEPOSITORY DIVISION** – This division is responsible for the licensing, supervision, and regulation of 10 programs. Prior to FY 90/91, the entities regulated included licensed lenders, notification filers, consumer loan brokers, and mortgage brokers and/or lenders. OFI was given responsibility in FY 92/93 for refund anticipation loan facilitators (repealed August 15, 1997), credit repair services, and self-help repossession agents. In FY 93/94, pawnbrokers, collection agencies (repealed August 15, 2003), and bond for deed escrow agencies were added. In FY 99/00, check cashers were added effective June 6, 2000. During FY 99/00, OFI began licensing residential mortgage lenders, brokers, and originators subject to the Residential Mortgage Lending Act. A total of 10,667 entities currently are licensed by the Nondepository Division. Questions regarding this division should be directed to Chief Examiner Susan Jandle at (225) 925-1944 or [ofila@ofi.louisiana.gov](mailto:ofila@ofi.louisiana.gov).

The following are brief descriptions of the types of entities supervised by this division:

**Licensed Lenders** – Persons engaging in the business of making consumer loans and financing insurance premiums (finance companies).

**Loan Brokers** – Persons who, for compensation or the expectation of compensation, obtain or offer to obtain a consumer loan or other loan subject to the Louisiana Consumer Credit Law from a third party for another person.

**Residential Mortgage Lenders/Brokers** – Persons who fund residential mortgage loans, or who, for compensation or the expectation of compensation, obtain or offer to obtain loans secured by mortgages on residential property located in Louisiana.

**Notification Filers** – Persons engaged in selling goods or services on credit and persons who take assignment of and undertake direct collection of payments from or enforcement of rights against debtors arising from these sales or loans.

**Credit Repair Services Organizations** – Persons, who in return for money, improve or represent that they can improve a buyer's credit record, history, or rating.

**Self-Help Repossession Agents** – Persons who repossess automobiles by means other than judicial process or voluntary surrender by the debtor.

**Pawnbrokers** – Persons who lend money on a deposit or pledge or who take items into possession as security for money advanced.

**Check Cashers** – A person, unless otherwise exempt, who accepts compensation for cashing checks, drafts, money orders, or other commercial paper.

**Bond for Deed Escrow Agents** – Persons designated by the parties to a bond for deed transaction to distribute payments made by the buyer to the holder of a mortgage in the real property subject to the transaction.

**EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION DIVISION** – This division is primarily responsible for the overall management of the agency and provides direction to the other three divisions. The following support functions are included in this division: legal, fiscal, budget, human resources, and information systems.

In addition, this division is responsible for licensing and regulating the Business and Industrial Development Corporations (BIDCOs) and Certified Louisiana Capital Companies (CAPCOs). The BIDCO program promotes the formation of business and industrial development corporations to help meet the financing assistance and management needs of business firms in the State. The CAPCO program provides tax credits to companies who invest in CAPCOs, which in turn make equity investments in qualifying Louisiana businesses. Questions regarding both programs should be directed to Review Examiner Doug Buras at (225) 922-2595 or [dburas@ofi.louisiana.gov](mailto:dburas@ofi.louisiana.gov).